

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Virginia announces 'Most Wanted' child support evaders -- Seventeen owe \$1,253,152 --

RICHMOND - - Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. has released the latest "Most Wanted" poster profiling Virginia's seventeen most egregious child support evaders.

This year's poster features sixteen men and one woman, all noncustodial parents, who owe a combined total of \$1,253,152 in past-due child support to their children. The poster contains each person's photograph, physical description, last known address, occupation and the amount of child support they owe.

"We want parents to be financially responsible for their children," Conyers said. "The individuals featured in the Most Wanted poster have ignored their responsibility, disregarded the law and should be held accountable," added Conyers.

The individuals profiled work in a variety of occupations and include a construction worker, a car salesman, and a quality assurance inspector. The list also features a computer consultant who was once a professional football player for the Washington Redskins—he owes over \$83,000 to three children. Some of the parents featured owe debts ranging from \$10,565 for one child to \$175,155 for six children, with one parent owing \$167,465 for one child.

The state's Most Wanted Poster is one of many tools that Virginia uses to collect child support. Other methods include: income withholding, freezing assets held by financial institutions, suspending driver's licenses, booting vehicles, subpoening cell phone records, placing liens on assets, and intercepting federal and state tax refunds.

VDSS Deputy Commissioner and Director of Child Support Enforcement Nick Young said, "In the past, these Most Wanted Posters have proven effective in obtaining information from the public regarding the whereabouts, employment, and financial situations of egregiously delinquent parents. Virginia's child support enforcement workers, with the assistance of the public and law enforcement, have a unified commitment to tracking and apprehending individuals who fail to meet their financial obligations to their children."

This the 20th poster to be issued since the agency's program began in 1989. Last year, DCSE collected a record \$587.4 million in child support benefiting one-quarter of the children in Virginia.

If you have any information regarding the location or employment of these parents, please call toll free 1 (800) 257-9986.

The "Most Wanted" <u>poster</u> is featured online at the VDSS Web site. For more information about Virginia's Child Support Enforcement Program, <u>click here</u>.

The Virginia Department of Social Services (<u>www.dss.virginia.gov</u>) Home Office is located in Richmond and administers social services programs consistent with Federal and State law and policy of the State Board of Social Services through 120 local departments of social services (LDSS) throughout the state. The VDSS mission is "People helping people triumph over poverty, abuse and neglect to shape strong futures for themselves, their families and communities."